

**From:** Michael Drone  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/26/02 3:12pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

26 January, 2002

Attorney General Ashcroft,

It is my fervent belief that that Microsoft should no longer be subject to the vagaries of this antitrust suit. The U.S. system of justice, while one of the finest in the world, has in this case been usurped by a group of tech sector companies who are behaving no better than a band of brigands prowling the medieval roadside. To wit, they will gladly plunder a wealthy target to line their own larcenous pockets.

Mercifully, Microsoft and the DOJ have reached a settlement that can put the American people out of this case's misery. In an ideal world, this suit whould never have been brought at all. However, in an ideal world, I'd be romantically involved with Liv Tyler. Suffice it to say, neither of those options are feasible at this time.

Some opponents say that the settlement lets Microsoft off the hook with only a slap on the wrist. I have perused the settlement, however, and can only conclude that those who deride the settlement must be smoking some sort of powerful hallucinogenic substance. Under this settlement, Microsoft will have to accept provisions that would be the WWF equivalent of being on the recieving end of the Undertaker's devastating Last Ride, Stone Cold Steve Austin's patented Stone Cold Stunner, and the most electrifying move in sports entertainment - the People's Elbow, consecutively. This is the exact antithesis of getting off easy.

This antitrust suit has been more taxing on America's patience than the recent spate of reality-based television. I don't forsee NBC, ABC, CBS, or FOX changing their scheduling plans anytime soon, so the least that the country could do is end this lawsuit and accept the settlement.

Thanks to the intern of staff assistant who's reading this for taking the time out of your day. I hope it's been both informative and, in some small part, entertaining.

Sincerely,

Mike Drone

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